

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

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SCOTT BROWN,

Plaintiff,

v.

LUCAS WOGERNESE,

Defendant.

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ORDER

Case No. 16-cv-34-jdp

Plaintiff has a deadline of February 16, 2016 to pay the initial partial payment of the filing fee in this case. Now plaintiff has filed a letter requesting an order from the court directing use of his release account to pay his \$5.03 initial partial payment. Plaintiff's request will be granted in part.

The language in 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1) suggests that prison officials are required to use a prisoner's release account to satisfy an *initial partial payment* if no other funds are available. *Carter v. Bennett*, 399 F. Supp. 2d 936, 936-37 (W.D. Wis. 2005). Therefore, if sufficient funds do not exist in plaintiff's regular account to pay his initial partial payment, he should be allowed to use his release account to pay some or all of the assessed amount. This does not mean that plaintiff is free to ask prison officials to pay *all* of his filing fee from his release account. The only amount plaintiff must pay at this time is the \$5.03 initial partial payment. Before prison officials take any portion of that amount from plaintiff's release account, they may first take from plaintiff's regular account whatever amount up to the full amount plaintiff owes. Plaintiff should show a copy of this order to prison officials to ensure that they are aware they should send plaintiff's initial partial payment to this court.

The court will provide plaintiff with an enlargement of time until March 4, 2016 to pay the initial partial payment.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that,

1. Plaintiff Scott Brown's motion for use of release account funds to pay the initial partial filing fee in this case is GRANTED IN PART. The only amount plaintiff must pay at this time is the \$5.03 initial partial payment. Before officials take any portion of that amount from plaintiff's release account, they may first take from plaintiff's regular account whatever amount up to the full amount plaintiff owes.

2. Plaintiff may have until March 4, 2016, to submit a check or money order made payable to the clerk of court in the amount of \$5.03. If by March 4, 2016, plaintiff fails to make the initial partial payment or show cause for failure to do so, plaintiff will be held to have withdrawn this action voluntarily and the case will be closed without prejudice to plaintiff's filing at a later date.

Entered this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016.

BY THE COURT:

/s/  
PETER OPPENEER  
Magistrate Judge